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Amendments to the Claims



This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A vacuum processing apparatus comprising:
 - a cassette table for mounting at least one cassette on a plane, each cassette capable of storing at least a dummy sample in the atmosphere;
 - a load lock chamber for storing said dummy sample and changing-over from the atmosphere to the vacuum condition, or from the vacuum condition to the atmosphere;
 - a first transferring device having an extensible arm capable of vertical operation and rotatable operation and a scooping device for taking out said dummy sample from any one of a plurality of cassettes, and transferring it to said load lock chamber or transferring it from said load lock chamber to said one cassette;
 - a transferring chamber for transferring said dummy sample in a vacuum condition;
 - a plurality of vacuum processing chambers connected to said transferring chamber through a gate valve and into which said dummy sample may be provided one by one in a vacuum condition;
 - a second transferring device arranged in said transferring chamber, having an extensible arm capable of rotatable operation, for transferring said dummy sample between said load lock chamber and said plurality of vacuum processing chambers;
 - a first support member arranged in said load lock chamber so as to support said dummy sample one by one;